

January 8, 1976

SENATOR WILTSE: Strike completely. The bill itself pertains to safety entirely, due to the fact that we have a good many vehicles on the road at the present time that have raised rear ends which are a hazard in case of a collision, any rear end collision. The experiences in the testimony that we received was that in case of an accident of this kind we might possibly have, and have had, demonstration of this--an explosion of the gasoline from the tank that is punctured in case of this type of an accident. The thought particularly in the question of altering vehicles is altering the steering and the wheel base of the vehicle which is caused by the raising of the rear of the car. That is the purpose of the bill. We had a good deal of testimony for the bill. It is passed by a majority of the Committee and only one in opposition to the bill itself.

I would move, Mr. Chairman, that we advance the bill as amended.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Senator Wiltse, I think you talked to me about this a couple years ago. On this bill, the way it's written I would have to oppose it in effect that you've got a couple things that I think are unclear. If you would, maybe you could clear them up if we'd ask. On page 2 of your bill it says "in such a manner so as to cause a probable unsafe". Who determines a "probable unsafe"? The police officer, is it strictly left up to his discretion? That's the first question, I've got two or three others unless you scrap that with your amendment. You might just take that out.

SENATOR WILTSE: I think that's taken care of.

SENATOR BARNETT: It takes all that out of it? OK. Is there any restriction? You pull a trailer, as I understand it.... you pull a camper. What happens to a person who alters the suspension through air shocks or anyother method to compensate for weight? This bill says that "to raise or lower the vehicle height or change the track from the manufacturers original design or specifications". I think they would be illegal under the way this bill.... I think you would if you change the suspension to pull a housetrailer. The way this is written I think it's awfully broad. I think maybe it should be more specific as to what you're trying to get. I know exactly what you're trying to do. I think that the way that you have it written in the amendment you could affect people, trucks, cars that have overloads because they will raise the rear end until the weight is put in. I'd ask you if I know it's not your intent. I think this will happen with the way this is written. I would sincerely hope that if you're going to pass it the way it is,.... I hope it don't pass. What you're trying to do, I think, is commendable. This way, however, is bad.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.